

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 100. (Cancelled)

101. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting at least one baseball area of a baseball playing field comprising the steps of:

preparing or assembling a weighted baseball area cover from a flexible material and at least one weight for retaining said flexible material in a desired position after said flexible material has been situated over the at least one baseball area of said baseball playing field;

said at least one weight facilitating retaining said weighted baseball area cover over said at least one baseball area in order to protect said at least one baseball area from at least one of wind, rain or debris;

enabling a user to substantially simultaneously store said flexible material and said at least one weight at a storage area away from said at least one baseball area;

enabling said user to substantially simultaneously hand deliver said flexible material and said at least one weight to said at least one baseball area;

sewing or adapting said flexible material to provide a weight-receiving area in at least a portion of a perimeter of said weighted baseball area cover:

causing said at least one weight to be situated in said ~~weight-receiving~~ weight-receiving area; and

causing said at least one weight to be retained in said weight-receiving area.

102. (Cancelled)

103. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

moving said flexible material and said at least one weight substantially simultaneously by moving said weighted baseball area cover.

104. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

storing said flexible material and said at least one weight substantially simultaneously by moving said weighted baseball area cover from said at least one baseball area to said storage area.

105. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 103 wherein said moving step is performed by hand.

106. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be retained in an entire surrounding perimeter of said flexible material.

107. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be remote from, but secured to, said flexible material.

108. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be situated in a seam in said flexible material.

109. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be received between plies of said flexible material that define said weight-receiving area.

110. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

heat sealing said flexible material to define said weight-receiving area; and
placing said at least one weight in said weight-receiving area.

111. (Cancelled)

112. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said weight-receiving area to extend continuously around a perimeter of said flexible material.

113. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing a plurality of separate weight-receiving areas to be provided in a perimeter of said flexible material in intervals.

114. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

sewing said flexible material to provide said weight-receiving area that extends at least partly around said perimeter; and

sewing at least one interior weight-receiving area toward a center area of said flexible material.

115. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

creating a plurality of separate weight-receiving areas in said perimeter in intervals.

116. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

creating a plurality of weight-receiving areas extending between a plurality of points on said perimeter.

117. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

creating ~~said an interior~~ weight-receiving area ~~in said flexible material to define a spiral interior of said weight-receiving area in said at least a portion of said perimeter in said flexible material.~~

118. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said flexible material to be folded onto itself and heat sealed or sewn to define said weight-receiving area.

119. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method comprises the step of:

weighting said flexible material with said at least one weight, wherein said at least one weight comprises at least one of a chain, pellets, sand, earth, rock, concrete, aggregate, polymer, or a second fabric.

120. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said at least one weight comprises a metal.

121. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said flexible material to comprise a predetermined configuration to define said perimeter to comprise a circumference of at least six feet.

122. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said flexible material to comprise a predetermined configuration that defines a circular shape or polygonal shape.

123. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 122 wherein said polygonal shape defines a pentagon, hexagon or octagon.

124. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 122 wherein said polygonal shape comprises a non-equilateral pentagon, hexagon or octagon.

125. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said flexible material comprises at least one of the following: vinyl laminated polyester; coated polyester; polyethylene sheet or woven polyethylene; a vinyl laminated or coated onto a polyester scrim fabric; a vinyl sheet; a vinyl laminated to a polymer woven scrim fabric; a vinyl coated polymer woven scrim; a vinyl laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim; or a polymer laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim.

126. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim ~~101~~ 122 wherein said flexible material comprises at least one of the following: vinyl laminated polyester; coated polyester; polyethylene sheet or woven polyethylene; a vinyl laminated or coated onto a polyester scrim fabric; a vinyl sheet; a vinyl laminated to a polymer woven scrim fabric; a vinyl coated polymer woven scrim; a vinyl laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim; or a polymer laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim.

127. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method comprises the step of:

situating a plurality of weights in said perimeter.

128. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 103 wherein said moving step is performed by rolling said weighted baseball area cover onto a storage/installer device.

129. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 128 wherein said storage/installer device comprises some grips for lifting said storage/installer device.

130. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said at least one baseball area is a pitcher's mound area or a home plate area.